

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 56.0470DIV  
Inventors: McIntire et al.  
Express Mail No.: ER442604048US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF:	§	DOCKET NO.: 56.0470DIV
McIntire et al.	§	
Division of Application	§	GROUP ART UNIT: Unknown
Serial No. 09/747,398	§	
Filed: December 21, 2000	§	
TITLE: VALVE APPARATUS	§	EXAMINER: Unknown
	§	

**Preliminary Amendment**

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 6 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 8 of this paper.